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Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Security Council
Seventieth year

Identical letters dated 31 March 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters regarding the Syrian prisoner Sidqi al-Maqt, who is being detained by the Israeli occupying forces, I should like to convey to you the following information:

The Syrian prisoner Sidqi al-Maqt, who has been detained for several weeks by the Israeli occupying forces without any justification, is being subjected to various forms of savagery at the hands of the occupiers, including torture, cruel treatment and the denial of rights that are guaranteed under international law, the International Bill of Human Rights and the Geneva Conventions. The family and attorney of Al-Maqt have learned that Israel has decided to continue his arbitrary detention and is preparing to level trumped up charges against him. Israel is also denying his attorneys access to their client and is attempting to appoint its own lawyers to represent him, in place of independent counsel.

Those actions by Israel are a reflection of the occupying authorities' ongoing violations of the most fundamental human rights. Their primary aim is to cover up the alliance between Israel and the terrorist groups that are killing Syrians, destroying our country and committing acts of aggression against the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). Israel bears responsibility for the aggressions committed against UNDOF because it has provided the terrorist groups with cover and treated the members of those groups in its hospitals. Approximately 2,000 terrorists have received treatment at Israeli hospitals.

The disgraceful acts of Israel violate international law, the Charter of the United Nations and United Nations resolutions. They also give to lie any assurances that Israel makes regarding how Arabs, whether Syrians or Palestinians, are treated in its prisons. All of that is made clear by its racist policies and its blatant support for terrorist groups not only in Syria, but in the region and at the international level.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic would be grateful if the Secretary-General were to intervene directly, in order to save Al-Maqt's life, and direct the relevant United Nations organs, particularly the Human Rights Council, to follow up on the prisoner's condition, end Israel's maltreatment of Al-Maqt and secure his immediate and unconditional release.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 51, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Haydar **Ali Ahmad**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.